GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5399
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2003
IMPORT OF EXOTIC BIRDS
JAYABEN B. THAKKAR;Y.G. MAHAJAN

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Ministry of Environment and Forests have rejected a proposal forincreasing the number of species of captive-bred exotic birds for export;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a number of Indian birds were wrongly declared as exotic;

(d) if so, the steps the Government propose to resolve the anomaly; and

(e) the facts responsible for the drastic curtailment of import of exotic birds by U.S and U.K.?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

(a), (b) &(c) At present the trade in captive bred exotic species of birds is regulated as per the decision of the Standing Committee of Indian Board for Wild Life,the highest advisory body concerning wild life conservation and control of poaching and trade. Only six species of captive bred exotic birds can be exported under the EXIM Policy. The proposal of All India Bird Breeders Association and others requesting for permission to export all species of captive bred exotic birds was carefully considered by the Standing Committee of Indian Board for Wild Life in its meeting held in February, 2003. The members were unanimous in their opinion that there should be no increase in the number of species of captive bred exotic birds as many cases have come to the notice of the Government wherein exporters tried to export Indian species disguised as exotics.

(d) As decided by the Standing Committee of the Indian Board for Wild Life, only six species of captive bred exotic birds will be permitted. Stringent action will be taken against the offenders including forfeiture of property under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

(e) As reported by the Environmental Investigating Agency, UK, the United States of America enactedthe Exotic Wild Bird Conservation Act in 1992 prohibiting the import of many bird species in the interest of conservation. Similarly the United Kingdom also declined the imports due to large scale deaths of birds during transit.